

## Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /083 W

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R 161736Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3679

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GW, MPOL

SUBJECT: FREE DEMOCRATS NAME NEW DEFENSE SPOKESMAN

1. JUERGEN MOELLEMANN, THIRTY-YEAR OLD FDP BUNDESTAG REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE MUENSTER AREA IN NORTH RHINE WESTPHALIA, HAS RECENTLY BEEN NAMED DEFENSE SPOKESMAN FOR HIS FRAKTION, REPLACING LOTHAR KRALL. THIS SURPRISE ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN GREETED IN FDP QUARTERS AS A SIGN THAT THE FREE DEMOCRATS WILL ACCORD INCREASED  
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ATTENTION TO AN AREA SOMEWHAT NEGLECTED BY THE PARTY

OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS.

2. UNTIL NOW MOELLEMANN HAS BEEN CHIEFLY INVOLVED IN YOUTH AND EDUCATION AFFAIRS IN THE BUNDESTAG. IN AN OCT. 14 CONVERSATION WITH AN EMBOFF HE REVEALED A DESIRE TO COMBINE HIS NEW RESPONSIBILITY IN THE BUNDESTAG DEFENSE COMMITTEE WITH HIS FORMER ACTIVITY, AS HE FEELS IT PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT THAT THE YOUNGER FRG GENERATION APPRECIATE THE IMPORTANCE OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND ITS OBLIGATIONS ON THE INDIVIDUAL CITIZEN.

3. MOELLEMANN IS ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT THE PROBLEM OF STANDARDIZATION AMONG NATO MEMBERS. HE IS A FORMER BUNDESWEHR AIRBORNE TRAINEE, WHO IS EVEN NOW A DEVOTED PARACHUTIST IN HIS FREE TIME. MOELLEMANN IS ESPECIALLY STRUCK BY THE LARGE WASTE OF FUNDS IN THE FIELD OF AIRCRAFT DEVELOPMENT. HE IS, FOR EXAMPLE, QUITE UNHAPPY ABOUT THE HEAVY MRCA RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COSTS EXPENDED THUS FAR BY THE WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT. A MORE BUSINESS-LIKE AND SHARED TRANS-ATLANTIC STANDARDIZATION PROGRAM MUST, HE FEELS, BE ESTABLISHED.

4. MOELLEMANN CLEARLY SEES THE NEED TO MAINTAIN VIABLE FRG FORCES TO COUNTER THE SOVIET THREAT. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, HE NOTES THAT THE SOVIET FORCES ALSO PROVIDE A BUFFER BETWEEN THE FRG AND THE PRC. MOELLEMANN WAS IN THE PRC LAST YEAR WITH AN FRG PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION AND HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH PRC FOREIGN MINISTER CH'IAO KUAN-HUA. PRC LEADERS, HE FEELS, SUPPORT EUROPEAN UNITY ONLY AS LONG AS THEY STAND TO BENEFIT. ONCE THE U.S. AND THE SOVIET UNION WEAR ONE ANOTHER DOWN SUFFICIENTLY, THE CHINESE THINK, THEN THEY WILL BE IN A POSITION TO TAKE OVER.

5. MOELLEMANN SPENT FIVE WEEKS ON A PRIVATE VISIT TO CALIFORNIA AND THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST THIS PAST SUMMER. WHILE HIS ENGLISH IS HALTING AND HE WAS GENERALLY ON HIS OWN, THE PHYSICAL BEAUTY OF THE U.S. AND THE FRIEND-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LINESS OF AMERICANS WHOM HE MET MADE A VERY POSITIVE IMPACT ON HIM. AS A RESULT, AT PRESENT HE IS PRONOUNCEDLY PRO-AMERICAN.

COMMENT: MOELLEMANN COULD IN TIME PROVE TO BE A VALUABLE ASSET TO THE FDP. THE FREE DEMOCRATS HAVE BOTH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND THE ECONOMIC MINISTRY. ONE CAN SPECULATE THAT PARTY CHIEF GENSCHER MOST PROBABLY

WOULD LIKE A RELIABLE AND CAPABLE STAFFER IN THE DEFENSE  
FIELD ALSO, PARTICULARLY AT A TIME WHEN BUDGET TRIMMING  
AND THE POSSIBLE EXPANSION OF ARMAMENTS EXPORTS ARE  
TOPICS OF INCREASING IMPORTANCE IN THE FRG.  
HILLENBRAND

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